



BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
*ALMOND 2 POWER PLANT PROJECT***

DOCKET No. 09-AFC-2

COMMITTEE SCHEDULING ORDER

Background

On May 11, 2009, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) to construct and operate an electrical generating plant in the City of Ceres, Stanislaus County, California. The proposed Almond 2 Power Plant would be a natural-gas fired, simple-cycle peaking facility rated at a gross generating capacity of 174 megawatts (MW). The proposed Almond 2 Power Plant (A2PP) would be located on a 4.6-acre parcel adjacent to the existing 48 MW TID Almond Power Plant (A1PP) located at 4500 Crows Landing Road, Modesto, California 95358. The site is located in an industrial area, two miles from the Ceres city center and five miles south of Modesto.

Summary

The Energy Commission assigned a Committee of two Commissioners to conduct proceedings on the AFC. The Committee held a public site visit, Informational Hearing and Environmental Scoping Conference in the City of Ceres on July 30, 2009, to discuss the review process and to identify issues that could affect the schedule. Pursuant to Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations section 1709.7(c), the attached Committee Schedule is based on Applicant's and Staff's proposed schedules and related discussions at the Informational Hearing.

The schedule contains a list of events that must occur in order to complete the certification process. This initial schedule covers the period up to the Prehearing Conference with the balance of the schedule to be determined at the Prehearing Conference. The Committee encourages the parties to consider this schedule an outer boundary and make their best efforts to complete the milestones ahead of these dates. Some deadlines are contingent upon reviews to be conducted by federal, state, and local agencies. The Applicant must provide sufficient review time for the responsible agencies to meet the deadlines specified in the schedule.

Technical issues regarding transmission system engineering, including procedural issues involving system impact studies, are pending. Resolution of these issues shall be addressed during the data exchange process and public meetings with the parties and interested governmental agencies. Given the complexities involved in resolving the issues, the parties are on notice that the Committee may modify the schedule at any time upon either our own motion or that of a party. [Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1709.7(c).]

The project proposes to construct nine to eleven miles of natural gas pipeline. The Committee expressed interest in further analysis of the advantages or disadvantages of using biomass as fuel for the A2PP.

Status Reports

The schedule requires monthly status reports to be submitted by all parties to determine whether case development is progressing satisfactorily and to bring potential schedule delays or other relevant matters to our attention. The burden is on the Applicant to produce the necessary data according to the schedule. If there are delays, the Committee may adopt a performance approach resulting in a commensurate slip of the schedule.

To facilitate the process, each party shall serve and file status reports on the first day of each month starting **September 1, 2009**, and continuing until the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) is published. The reports shall be received by the other parties and the Commission's Docket Unit, 1516 9th Street, MS 4, Sacramento, California 95814-5512, **and must be filed no later than 3:00 p.m.** Status reports must contain "Docket No. 09-AFC-2" in the caption or heading. In addition to providing printed copies, the parties shall e-mail their status reports to the Hearing Officer and to those with e-mail addresses as indicated on the Proof-of-Service list. If, for any reason, the FSA is delayed beyond March 3, 2010, the parties are **ORDERED** to provide status reports on the first day of every month until directed otherwise by the Committee.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission Public Adviser, Elena Miller, is available to assist the public in participating in the application review process. For those individuals who require general information on how to participate, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or email: [**\[publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us\]**](mailto:publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us).

If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in any scheduled event, contact Lourdes Quiroz no less than five days prior to the hearing at 916-654-5146 or e-mail: [**\[lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us\]**](mailto:lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us).

Information

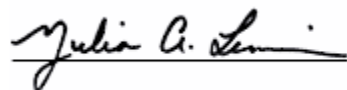
Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Kenneth Celli, the Hearing Officer, at (916) 651-8893, or e-mail: [\[kcelli@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:kcelli@energy.state.ca.us).

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Felicia Miller, Staff Project Manager, at (916) 654-4489, or e-mail: [\[fmiller@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:fmiller@energy.state.ca.us).

Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Media and Public Communications at (916) 654-4989 or e-mail: [\[mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us).

Information concerning the status of this project, as well as notices and other relevant documents pertaining to this proceeding, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: [\[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/almond/index.html\]](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/almond/index.html).

Dated: August 10, 2009 at Sacramento, California.



JULIA LEVIN
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Almond 2 Power Plant AFC Committee



KAREN DOUGLAS
Chair and Associate Member
Almond 2 Power Plant AFC Committee

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE
FOR THE
ALMOND 2 POWER PLANT

NOTE: STATUS REPORTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY MONTH BEGINNING 9/1/09.

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Applicant files Application for Certification (AFC)	5/11/09
AFC is Deemed Data Adequate	7/1/09
Staff files Issue Identification Report (IIR)	7/23/09
Staff files Data Requests	7/29/09
Informational Hearing and Site Visit	7/30/09
Applicant Provides Data Responses	9/1/09
Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshop	9/17/09
Staff files Data Requests (set 2 if necessary)	9/30/09
Local, State, and Federal Agency Draft Determinations	10/29/09
Applicant Provides Data Responses (set 2 if necessary)	10/29/09
Staff files Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA)	11/25/09
PSA Workshop	12/16/09
Local, State, and Federal Agency Final Determinations	12/30/09
Staff files Final Staff Assessment (FSA)	2/14/10
FSA Workshop	3/3/10
Prehearing Conference	TBD
Evidentiary Hearings	TBD
Committee releases Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD)	TBD
Committee Conference on the PMPD	TBD
Committee Issues Revised PMPD	TBD
Commission releases Final Decision	TBD

TBD = To Be Determined

Dated: August 10, 2009